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News Release

For Immediate Release

Holland Elementary Step Club Walks 2,267 Miles

The Holland Elementary School Step Club logged 2,267 walking miles this school year, more than any other school in Springfield.

Since October 2011, 74 students at Holland have spent Tuesday and Thursday mornings circling the school's outside track, or walking a route in the halls during poor weather. Participant times were recorded after every walk. Holland School has recognized Step Club members every month with new tags for their school lanyards.

Holland was one of 20 Springfield schools organizing Step Clubs this year through the SPARC and CLICK after-school programs, a partnership between Springfield Public Schools and the Springfield-Greene County Park Board. In addition to walking twice a week, Step Clubs teach children to recognize the benefits of healthy living.

Holland Principal Nicole Kimbrough said the Step Club has helped enhance her school's focus on exercise and good nutrition.

"Our community at Holland is pretty adamant about being health-conscious, and the Step Club is really an extension of what we're already doing," said Holland Principal Nicole Kimbrough, who also coached the Step Club. "I help coach because I want the Holland community to be healthy, but our students and staff have all taken an active role."

Holland Elementary will celebrate the Step Club's accomplishment at Holland's year-end assembly Tuesday, May 22, 2 p.m. at 2403 S. Holland, Springfield. Step Club members will receive their final tags and be recognized for their total miles walked.

The SPARC and CLICK programs promote opportunities for youth and families through after-school programs, summer camps and other activities. They are administered by Springfield Public School and the Springfield-Greene County Park Board's School-Park program, in partnership with several other community organizations.

For more information, call Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Public Information Administrator for the Springfield-Greene County Park Board, at 417-874-2176 or 417-224-5510 or visit parkboard.org/sparc.